

American Legion Notes

"FACTS—NOT OPINIONS"

The national emblem was generally flown throughout Nebraska Wednesday, June 14, national flag day. In many communities exercises were held in schools and public gathering places. Many American Legion posts sponsored appropriate ceremonies in response to the request of the day, and patriotic respect to the colors.

"Our dead buddies gave their lives for this emblem of freedom, but for us there is given a longer period of service than they were privileged to know," declares Hamford MacNider, national commander of the American Legion, in his message to the state departments of the legion urging legionnaires to make every effort to encourage the proper observance of Flag Day, June 14.

"There are three hundred and sixty-five days in the year when the American flag should be revered and honored, but it seems very proper that there should be some one day set apart when we pay special homage to the flag of our country. This flag was lifted to its place of high honor by the death of men and the sacrifice of women. We of the American Legion have served the flag on the field of battle and we know the things for which it stands."

Senators Walsh of Massachusetts and Jones of New Mexico have announced that they will offer an amendment to the American Legion's Adjusted Compensation bill to provide that heirs of soldiers who have died since the armistice shall be included among the beneficiaries of the measure.

The first out-door bed of American Legion roses has been planted in Hancock Park, Omaha. The American Legion rose, similar to the American Beauty, but more hardy, blooms freely during the summer months.

Nebraska world war veterans who served overseas in the vicinity of Rheims are being asked by the American Legion to send back to France any fragment of the historical Rheims cathedral carried away.

Battered into a mass of debris by German guns, Rheims cathedral, ruins and, French authorities declare, following the armistice, was a mecca for souvenir hunters. Thousands of members of the A. E. F. visited the ruins and, French authorities declare, many carried away pieces of statuary and other elements of the old cathedral. Parts of the stately edifice, put in place hundreds of years ago and sacred to every French heart, were priceless.

The reconstructing efforts are aimed toward replacing all former portions that can be recovered. The French people hold that it is an insult to Christianity and to the French for individuals to retain bits of the cathedral as souvenirs. Many fragments have already been returned and it is to further this cause that the legion is making its appeal to former doughboys.

Hundreds of inquiries are pouring into the state headquarters at Lincoln concerning the national essay contest conducted by the legion on the subject "How can the American Legion best serve the Nation?" The contest is open to school boys and girls number between twelve and eighteen and the number and tenor of the inquiries indicate that it will be a success despite the fact that it is being held during vacation. Prizes aggregating \$1,750 have been personally offered by Hamford MacNider. The Nebraska Legion addition is offering prizes of \$50, \$25 and \$10, and many posts are giving substantial prizes to the winners in their communities.

The American public has been sadly misled as to what the government is doing for the sick and wounded ex-soldiers. Newspapers have been full of the "staggering sums" being spent on the disabled. But the United States Veterans Bureau has not been nearly as efficient in its particular job of caring for the disabled as has the bureau's publicity office in its particular field.

These statements are set up in the first of a series of articles entitled

"Ten Months of the Veterans Bureau," appearing in a current issue of the American Legion Weekly.

"Just now the government is spending money at the rate of \$528,000,000 per year, and the president's signature to the new Lanley bill increases this total to \$545,000,000, or as much as it cost to run the whole United States government twenty-five years ago," the Weekly's article declares.

"We hear that 30,000 men are in hospitals, that 109,000 are taking vocational training. The inference is that all is lovely. The inference is false.

"Thirty thousand men in hospitals means little unless we know they are in fit hospitals and that there are no others not in hospitals who should be there. Vocational training is only 70 per cent efficient by the admission of Mr. Forbes, (director of the Veterans Bureau). The present vocational training situation is doing a large part of the 109,000 students no good, but positive harm."

The article recounts the fight the Legion has waged, beginning in 1919, for the centralization of the three-headed government system of caring for the disabled. This fight, centered on the hospitalization of men in "scandalously unfit places, with half of those needing it not hospitalized at all," a system "rotten to the core," with responsibility fixed upon no one, brought about the passage of the Sweet bill.

By forcing the passage of the Sweet bill, the Legion caused the formation of the U. S. Veterans Bureau of which Charles R. Forbes, Seattle, Wash., became director. Mr. Forbes was promised, the Weekly declares, complete co-operation with the ex-soldier organization. The Legion undertook to withhold public criticism and to suspend judgement until Mr. Forbes had been given the opportunity to untangle the skein.

"The Legion has kept its bargain," the article continues, "with a legion officer in each of the 14 regional districts into which the bureau has divided the country. The Legion has kept the mechanism of the entire organization at the disposal of the bureau and the veteran. The Legion has criticized, advised, worked and fought as hard as ever before to put the bureau on its feet.

"Though the government is spending more than a half billion dollars annually, the disabled veterans are not receiving benefits in any way commensurate with the vast outlay. Between the taxpayer who gives and the veteran who receives intervenes the old familiar bureau brigade—the silhouettes of incompetence, jealousy, mismanagement, greed, waste, extravagance and short-sightedness. Of the golden stream Uncle Sam pours forth far, far too few drops reach the ultimate beneficiary, the disabled man."

Politics and private greed have delayed for a year the location of hospitals. Meanwhile men who fought the country's battles are dying and going insane for the need of those hospitals, the Weekly declares.

"Site on site has been chosen, agreed upon by eminent experts, only to be abandoned in the face of objections arising from politics or selfishness, or both."

Listing those "political or selfish or both" agencies opposing the use of sites near them for the treatment of sick and wounded ex-soldiers, the Legion enumerates: "The millionaire who knew Secretary Mellon. He didn't want a soldiers' hospital near his country estate, and he had it his way. An exclusive young ladies' school, which viewed with repugnance the same thought."

"Another rich man who 'saw an influential congressman. Rival chambers of commerce which have created a Sargasso sea which impeded all progress."

The article charges that a general atmosphere of looseness and incompetence pervades some divisions of the Veterans bureau. Other bureau officials offer to compensate their shortcomings with recitals of their "immense sympathy for the disabled" and "the compelling interest" which they have in their work. These qualities are never "acceptable substitutes for intelligence and ability," the article concludes.

"These are highlights in a situation the American Legion Weekly means to disclose. It will do so in the hope and with the confidence that public opinion will send the bureau and the le-

gion renewed support in the effort which must redeem the government's ill-kept promises to our broken men."

The Legion maintains at Washington, bureau, and at Indianapolis, seat of the Legion headquarters, service divisions which establish close contact between the disabled veteran and the government agencies set up especially for his care. The service division office at Washington, as well as the one at Indianapolis, has forced through claims for disabled men despite vigorous opposition from officials who seemingly would rather witness a claimant's misery and death than sacrifice red-tape procedure and bureaucratic precedents. More than four and a half million dollars have been procured through the Legion's service division at Indianapolis alone for the ex-service claimants which they otherwise would have been years collecting, if they could have collected it at all.

The class of people who endorse Tanlac is a convincing guarantee of the medicine's merit. Give it a trial. F. E. Holsten.

LAKESIDE.

Warren McIntyre, Lee Meeker, E. A. Olson and Fred Speer went up twelve miles southwest of Alliance to put up alfalfa hay for a few days.

Ed Leiter of Alliance was in town last week.

Brace Hunsaker and Roy Skiles are over at Mitchell on business at the time of this writing.

Tom Asourin and Cecil Buckley were in town Saturday. Cecil is walking with the aid of crutches, the result of a horse falling with him.

Dick Hunsaker went to work for the Lakeside Ranch company last week.

Mrs. Otto Smith and son, Otto, Jr., and her little grandson, Leo, drove down from their home at Antioch the first part of the week.

Jim Wilson went out to visit at the Frank DeFrance ranch last week.

Mrs. P. F. Gillespie and son, Jack, spent the last few days at the Hudson hotel here.

Mr. and Mrs. Frank DeFrance and son, Donald, and Jim Wilson drove in from the ranches Saturday afternoon. Mr. and Mrs. Cecil Wilson and Julia Alice were shopping here Saturday from out north of town.

The Messrs. Harvey Whaley and Walter House drove to Alliance Saturday evening.

Howard Pogue went to Alliance Saturday to consult a doctor in regard to his hip which has been causing him considerable trouble the last few days.

Frank Westover and daughter, Emma, were in town shopping the latter part of the week.

R. A. Westover and daughter, Beatrice, went to Engman last Thursday to visit Mr. and Mrs. Jack Ballinger at that place.

The Messrs. McQuaid and Dobson were Alliance visitors Saturday evening.

Mrs. Della Powell returned home Saturday from the Sandoz ranch, where she has been employed the last few weeks.

Miss Vella Daume returned from Antioch recently where she has been visiting friends. She was accompanied home by Miss Dorothy Wilson of that place.

Lawrence Osborn came in from the Frank Westover home Sunday to spend the day with home folks here.

The Messrs. Floyd and Otto Smith, Jr. and Mr. Robinson of Antioch were in Lakeside Sunday.

Customers come to us every day and say Tanlac has been a blessing to them. We advise you to try it. F. E. Holsten.

CANNIBAL ETIQUETTE

According to a returned traveler, if a cannibal says "Wrrgh," it means that he does not want to eat you at once. There seems room for a manual of polite conversation that would enable the courteous traveler to respond: "Then would you like me cold for supper?"—London Opinion.

In this country we are apparently willing to try anything once except the criminals.—New York Tribune.

Money talks, but the people who know how to keep it don't.—Wall Street Journal.

New Dictionary To Tell About Hobo Slang

Chicago, June 24.—Your five foot shelf is incomplete unless you have the newest dictionaries on it.

No, it's not the lexicon of flapper talk. That's had time to get dusty since its publication.

Here's the latest book you must acquire, if you could have complete cultural equipment:

"The Classification of Tramps," ought to be off the press any day now, according to James Moore, it's author, who has just passed thru here.

Moore, known also as the "Dare-devil Hobo," said he spent ten years in his compilation of the work, which is to be a complete study of the various kinds of tramps.

"For instance," he said, in praising its everyday value to the man of literary finish, "some friend, speaking in that delightful dialect known as the 'amurrican language, says to you: 'Y big bum, you! Correct him! Ask him to be more specific."

"Ask him if he thinks you're a 'gay cat,' a 'jungle buzzard,' or a 'bundle of sticks.' Whether he classified you as a 'fox,' a 'wolf,' a 'dangler,' a 'wingle' or a 'plinger'."

"In short," refer him to the Noah Webster of the hobo world. That's me," said Moore.

Moore has several explanations for the root of the term "hobo."

It's the latin combination which he has compounded, of which he is most proud.

"Homo bonum," he said, with absolute disregard for gender. "Good Man, that's simple, isn't it?"

If that fails to satisfy the highbrow, the super-hobo has a historical derivation for his own kind.

"After the Civil war fellows like us traveled about the country looking for work. They carried hoes and got to be called 'hoe boys.'"

"Naturally," he says, "the term was shortened to 'hobo.'"

Simple, isn't it?

Moore has classified tramps into five kinds.

In class one, he says, that is, tramps of society or those who have some graft or excuse, are the idle rich or "loiterers." They stay at home and do no work, but may earn a living by tricks, gambling and stealing legally from the poor. There are the "street fakers" who work some selling game and the "professional beggars."

Class two consists of "tramps of vagabondism" who roam the country without funds and do not work unless forced to. Here is where the distinctions come in that make his dictionary absolutely necessary, he says.

"Bundle stiffs are those who carry their blankets and cooking utensils on their backs."

"Gay cats are the scouts for the yegg-tramps."

"Jungle buzzards are the tramps who spend their time cooking and washing in the thickets along the railroad tracks."

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Real slaves of the wanderlust comprise the third class. Here you find: "pickers," who walk the pike; "rattlers," who ride freight trains; "ramblers," who ride passenger trains, and if they are "foxes" they flimflam the

conductor; if only "wolves" they ride on the outside. These are again subdivided into "panhandlers," "loppers," "moocers" and "mission bums."

Class five are the crippled bums, with such technical titles as "wingies," "peggies" and "halfies," the latter being those who lack either one arm, leg or both legs.

Moore left for Omaha, himself a "rambler," clinging to the rods of a fast passenger train.

"That's my favorite mode of travel," he said. "I'm a born 'dangler.'"

FAIRVIEW.

Mr. Nabb had quite an accident the latter part of the week in striking a rut. The front wheels of his car became locked turning the car upside down. Mr. Nabb was badly bruised about the hips and legs but was lucky to escape without more serious injury.

A very large crowd was present for the new town ball game. The Lawn boys failing to put in an ap-

pearance another team was picked up and a good game was played.

R. H. West from town is spending a few days here visiting relatives.

J. W. Frazier, who has not been very well for some time, is spending a few days in town with his family.

Mr. and Mrs. Winfred Griffith and son and Joe West and family were Sunday visitors at the Fred Nason home.

William Aspden and family spent Sunday afternoon in town.

Mr. and Mrs. Ray West and son from east of town spent Sunday at the Fred Nason home.

Mr. and Mrs. Jess Chilson spent Sunday at the Lorraine home.

Mrs. Violet Shanks and children from Bridgeport arrived here Monday for a visit with her parents, Mr. and Mrs. Hadley.

A news story from Berlin is headed: "Germans fight to see Dempsey." Dempsey, however, never displayed any signs of a desire to fight to see the Germans.—Nashville Lumberman.

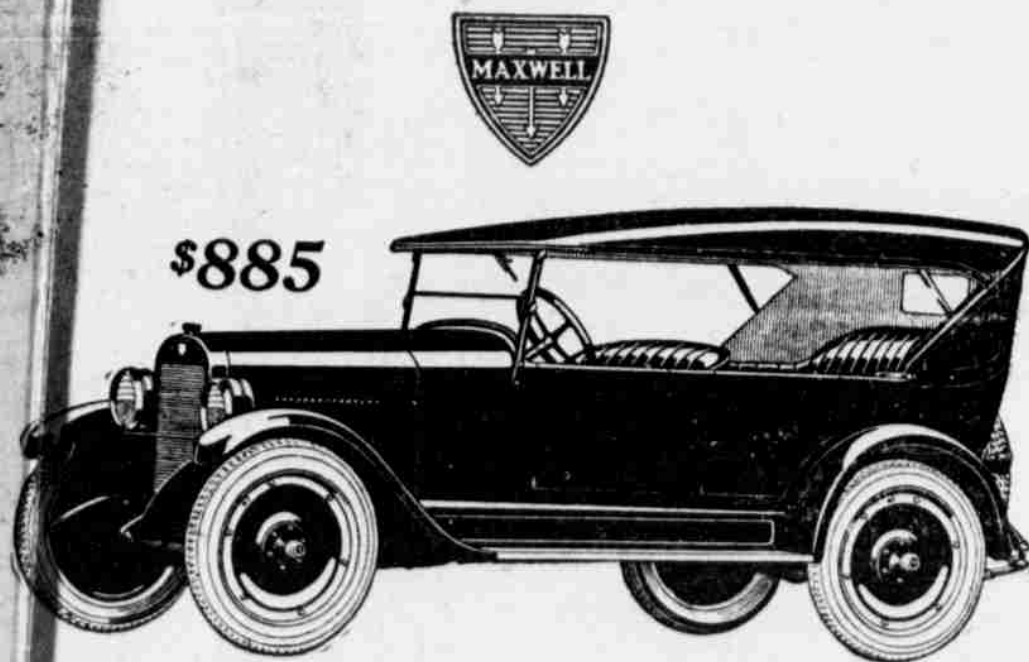
Announcement



Having resigned my position as manager of the J. H. Melville Lumber company to take effect not later than August 15, I wish to thank our friends and patrons for the consideration shown me in the past and to assure you of the best of treatment by my successor. Mr. McCall will be in town about the First of July at which time we will be glad to have you come in and get acquainted with him.

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